

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO USIA WASHINGTON DC

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USIA FOR IPS, INA

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : N/A

SUBJECT : NEW GULF DAILY

1. AKHBAR AL KHALEEJ (GULF NEWS) WILL BEGIN DAILY PUBLICATION FROM BAHRAIN ON FEBRUARY 1. EDITOR-IN-CHIEF IS MAHMOUD AL MARDI, FRANKLINESQUE JOURNALIST-PUBLISHER-PRINTER NOW OWNER OF WEEKLY AL ADHWA. MARDI MADE SIMILAR ATTEMPT AT PUBLISHING DAILY ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO, BUT FAILED AFTER SIX MONTHS. HE STATES THIS TRY IS MUCH BETTER ORGANIZED. HE HAS RECRUITED STAFF OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS, MOSTLY EGYPTIAN, LED BY EDITOR AL ARAB MOUSSA AND FOREIGN NEWS EDITOR SAEED NIMATULLAH.

2. NEW PAPER WILL ATTEMPT CAPTURE SIGNIFICANT PORTION ARABIC LANGUAGE CIRCULATION THROUGHOUT GULF, WITH EMPHASIS BAHRAIN, EASTERN SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR, UAE. HAS HIRED SEVERAL FULL-TIME CORRESPONDENTS TO SERVICE AREA AND NAMED EDITOR GULF AND ARAB AFFAIRS (AHMED ABDUL GHANI). ANTICIPATES INITIAL CIRCULATION OF 8,000; 2,000 IN SAUDI ARABIA. PAPER WILL BE 18X25 IN., INITIALLY 8 PAGES, PRINTED ON MARDI-OWNED 36 IN. THREE-COLOR WEB OFFSET.

3. MARDI HAS REQUESTED USIS ASSISTANCE OBTAINING SERVICE UPI
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AND AP, ESPECIALLY UPI PICTURE SERVICES. REQUEST IPS HAVE

NEWS SERVICES CONTACT PAPER DIRECTLY SOONEST. ADDRESS: DAR
AKHBAR AL KHALEEL, P.O. BOX 5300, MANAMA, BAHRAIN; TELEX, 8565
AKHBAH GJ; CABLE, ALKHALIJ, CARE ARABHOUSE, BAHRAIN; PHONE, 50216.

4. FOREIGN NEWS EDITOR HAS ALSO REQUESTED USIS PROVIDE HIM
PHOTOS, BIOS KEY MEMBERS USG FOR BACKGROUND FILE. CAN IPS
PREPARE PACKET AND POUCH DIRECTLY AMEMBASSY MANAMA? ALSO
REQUEST BACKGROUNDERS APOLLO-SOYUZ MISSION IN ANTICIPATION
ASTRONAUT VISIT TO GULF SOON AFTER PAPER BEGINS PUBLICATION.
WILL ASSEMBLE ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FROM USIS KUWAIT FILES.
ADVISE IF ID NUMBER REQUIRED.

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